

PATENT

# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application

Robert A. Talbot

Application No.

10/824,191

Filed

April 14, 2004

Confirmation No.

5889

For

VARIABLE HEIGHT COVERING SYSTEM

Examiner

Attorney's Docket

PIC-028XX

TC Art Unit: 3612

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

July 9, 2004.

Beverly E. Fjorth

Registration No. 32,033 Attorney for Applicant(s)

#### INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

It is desired to cite for the record in this application the enclosed references listed on the attached copy of PTO Form #1449. The paragraph(s) marked below are applicable to this Information Disclosure Statement.

- [X] (1) Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1) and (2), the attached Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above identified national application or within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 of the above identified application. Accordingly, applicant(s) believes that no fee or statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is required.
- [] (2) Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3), applicant(s) believes the attached Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits. Accordingly, applicant(s) believes that no fee or statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is required.

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[] (3) Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(4), applicant(s) believes the attached Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114. Accordingly, applicant(s) believes that no fee or statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is required.

- [ ] (4) Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), the attached Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a final action or a notice of allowance and is accompanied by:
  - [] a statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e); or
  - [ ] the fee set forth in § 1.17(p).

# PETITION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97(d)

[] (5) Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.97(d), applicant(s) hereby petitions the Commissioner to consider the attached Information Disclosure Statement which is being filed on or before payment of the issue fee. This petition is accompanied by a statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) and the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

#### STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1)

[] (6) The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in the attached Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

### STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2)

[] (7) The undersigned hereby states that no item of information contained in the attached Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the attached Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Where the status of the application has changed, unknown to the applicant, such that the boxes checked are no longer applicable, the Commissioner is authorized to accept this submission with any additional fees required by that change charged to Deposit Account No. 23-0804.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not a representation by the undersigned as to personal knowledge of the contents of

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every word or phrase of the material enclosed or that reliance on other suitably trained professionals has not been made.

If a search report of a searching agency is enclosed identifying the nature of the relevance of each document, such a designation is deemed to satisfy 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) even if in a foreign language because the codes are the same in all languages. However, applicant(s) does not necessarily adopt the position reflected by that report.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-0804. Triplicate copies of this letter are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT A. TALBOT

Beverly E. Hjörth

Registration No. 32,033 Attorney for Applicant(s)

WEINGARTEN, SCHURGIN,
GAGNEBIN & LEBOVICI LLP
Ten Post Office Square
Boston, Massachusetts 02109

Telephone: (617) 542-2290 Telecopier: (617) 451-0313

BEH/jms Enclosure 308366 JUL 1-2 2004 W

Date: July 9, 2004

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RATERIA	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE		ATTY. DOCKET NO.		APPLICATION NO.			
(REV. 05/03)	V. 05/03) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  (Use several sheets if necessary)			PIC-028XX		10/824,191		
	APPLICANT: Robert A. Talbot							
·				FILING DATE April 14, 2004		TC ART UNIT		
•		U.S. PATENT	DOCUMENT	ΓS		•		
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION/ ISSUE DATE	NAME  S.F. Sibley  Bachand et al.  Richard  Richard  Compton		CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE	
	US3,549,197*	12/22/70			296	100		
	US3,868,142*	02/25/75			296	98		
	US4,050,734*	09/27/77			296	98		
	US4,341,416*	07/27/82			296	98		
	US4,516,802*	05/14/85			296	98		
	US4,740,029*	04/26/88	Tuerk	Tuerk		100		
	US5,031,955*	07/16/91	Searfoss		296	98		
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<sup>\*</sup>Pursuant to PTO waiver, no U.S. art needs to be forwarded on applications filed after June 30, 2003 308367

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE				ATTY. DOCKET NO.		APPLICATION NO.		
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				APPLICANT:				
				Robert A. T		<u>,                                      </u>		
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EXAMINER	DOCUMENT NUMBER PUBLICAT		NAME		CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE	
INITIAL		ISSUE DATE						
	US5,054,840*	10/08/91	Wilhite		296	98		
	US5,205,605*	04/27/93	Haddad		296	98		
	US5,238,237*	08/24/93	Haddad		296	98		
	US5,303,972*	04/19/94	Heider et al.		296	98		
	US5,340,187*	8/1994	Haddad		296	98		
•	US5,179,991*	1/1993	Haddad		296	98X		
	US4,842,323*	6/1989	Trickett		296	98		
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE			ATTY. DOCKET NO.		APPLICATION NO.				
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EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION/	N	AME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING I	DATE	
-		ISSUE DATE							
	US3,774,958*	11/1973	Thorpe		296	98			
	US4,848,823*	7/1989	Flohr et al.	<del>-</del> -	296	98		_	
	US5,697,664*	12/1997	Chenowth		296	98			
	US5,823,604*	10/1998	Chenowth		296	98			
	US5,829,819*	11/1998	Searfoss		296	98			
	US5,292,169*	3/1991	O'Brian		296	98			
-	US5,957,523*	9/1999	Haddad, Jr	• .	296	98			
		FOREIGN PATEN	T DOCUME	ENTS					
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<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>\*</sup>Pursuant to PTO waiver, no U.S. art needs to be forwarded on applications filed after June 30, 2003

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary)				ATTY. DOCKET NO.  PIC-028XX  APPLICANT: Robert A. Talbot		APPLICATION NO. 10/824,191		
				FILING DATE April 14, 2004	;	TC ART UNIT	7	
•		U.S. PATENT	DOCUMENT	S				
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION/ ISSUE DATE	NAME		CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING I	DATE
	US6,089,645*	7/18/2000	Haddad, Jr.		296	98		
	US6,206,448*	3/27/2001	Haddad, Jr.		296	89		
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	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY		CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSI YES	LATION NO
	JP62131835	6/15/87	Japan					
	with English Abstract							
	JP63173740	7/18/1998	Japan					
	with English Abstract							
	EP 0 581 512 B1	10/16/1996	EPO					
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